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*SELECTIONS FROM SELMA LAGERLÖF'S NILS HOLGERSSONS UNDERBARA RESA GENOM SVERIGE*, with notes and vocabulary by A. Louis Elmquist, Stockholm, 1912. Albert Bonniers förlag. Pp. IV+187. Illustrated.

This volume forms number III of Bonnier's *College Series of Swedish Text-books*. It may be said here that Albert Bonniers förlag, Stockholm, with Mr. Elmquist as editor, was the first to undertake the publication of editions of Swedish texts with English notes and vocabulary (the Engberg-Holmberg Company of Chicago had published in 1909 Flom's edition of Tegnér's *Frithiofs-Saga* with notes). The editor and publishers of this series have placed American teachers and students of Swedish under obligation for the work they have done in presenting such excellent material as Selma Lagerlöf's *En herrgårds-sågen*, Helena Nyblom's *Det ringer* and now, lastly, Selma Lagerlöf's *Nils Holgersson*.

*Nils Holgerssons underbara resa genom Sverige* is a book used in the public schools of Sweden as an introduction to the nature and folklore of the country, and as such the book has proved remarkably successful. For Selma Lagerlöf the lakes and rivers, the fields and meadows, the woods and flowers, everything in nature, animate and inanimate, has something to say that reëchoes in the human heart. By reading this work one gets to know the physical geography of the land, and sees at close hand the many forms of life which are in evidence in the Scandinavian North. The authoress begins with Skåne and takes the reader through all the provinces of Sweden.

As the book is one of Selma Lagerlöf's longest, it was necessary for the editor to make selections, and he has done this by culling out easy and interesting stories. The aim he had in mind was to offer the student suitable reading for the beginning of the Swedish course, and the purpose was not to give an impression of the work as a whole. We do not read so much, therefore, about the adventures of Nils in his flight over the country as we do about the saga world of the North. The stories chosen are among the best intrinsically, as well as from the point of view of the student, and as they deal with different parts of Sweden, the selections furnish an introduction to the life and thought of the people much as the complete work does.

The editor has made the notes and vocabulary copious, and the book is, therefore, adapted to the needs of high school as well as college students. Both notes and vocabulary are clear and simple in statement as well as accurate. In the notes nothing essential has been omitted, though occasionally attention might have been called to the grammatical principle involved, where now only a translation is given; e. g., p. 9, l. 19; p. 77, l. 13; p. 111, l. 27; p. 115, l. 22. Attention is frequently called to the difference between the spoken and the written language, something that should not be lost sight of in the study of Swedish. The idiomatic turns of expression are for the most part explained in the vocabulary. The vocabulary is complete and has been prepared with great care.

A few minor slips have been noted; e. g., p. 138, after *dig*, yourself is misspelled; p. 141, the parenthesis is omitted after *satt* in the line beginning with *fortsätta*; p. 146, the definition of *helst* as -ever, prefer, is perhaps not clear to the beginner; p. 150, after *knastra*, crackle is misspelled; p. 153, under *lynne*, the comma

has been left out after humor; p. 158, it is evident that by a typographical error the first line dealing with the noun *reda* has slipped out, and the first line dealing with the verb *reda* repeated and substituted instead; the line to be supplied is perhaps: *reda*, order (or "clearness"); *ha reda*. How the student is to add the endings to the verbs, nouns, and adjectives given in the vocabulary might have been made clearer by putting a stroke after the part of the word to which the endings are attached; thus, *följ|a* (-*de*) instead of *följa* (-*de*); *stug|a* (-*or*) instead of *stuga* (-*or*); *förfall|en* (-*et*, -*na*) instead of *förfallen* (-*et*, -*llna*).

The book contains three splendid pictures: one of Selma Lagerlöf, one of her home in Falun, and one of Mårbacka, her idyllic retreat in Värmland. If I were to suggest any additional feature, it would be a short sketch of Selma Lagerlöf's life and works. Long introductions are of little value in a book of this kind, but in small compass a picture of the life of the author has its place. It should be added, however, that reference is made in the preface to the edition of Selma Lagerlöf's *En herrgårdssägen* in the same series, where there is a brief introduction dealing with her life. A map of Sweden would be an additional aid to the intelligent reading of these charming stories, and I trust the next edition may be provided with one.

The book is excellently gotten up and is, therefore, a most attractive text to put in the hands of the student.

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*A BRIEF SWEDISH GRAMMAR*, by Edw. J. Vickner, Ph.D. Revised edition. Rock Island, Ill., 1914. Augustana Book Concern. Pp. VIII+302+19.

The first edition of Vickner's *Swedish Grammar* was reviewed by the undersigned in the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, Vol. XII (1913), pp. 318-324.

The addition of a collection of songs with music is very welcome. I would point out that the designation used, "National Songs," does not apply to all those included.

In the new edition many misprints have been corrected and a large number of other improvements have been made, but many important changes that could have been expected have not been included. About the following matters mentioned in my earlier review there can hardly be any difference of opinion. The pronunciation of *l* (*lj*-) is still left unmentioned. Nothing is said about the sound of *sk* before consonants; Americans not infrequently pronounce *skriva* with the initial sound of German "schreiben." In §179 a, "compound verb" should be "compound tenses of the verb." The historically incorrect *sik* has not been changed (§181). In §305 hard vowels are still called strong. In Appendix 6, *bonde* has not been added to the list of nouns umlauting in the plural; others omitted are *land*, *spann*, *stånd*, *strand*, *tand*, several of which occur in the general vocabulary. There are not a few other similar instances, but those mentioned will illustrate the point.

In some cases the author in making corrections of matters referred to in my review has made a new mistake. In the remark preceding §4, the author speaks of a "tendency" toward slurring *e* in endings. It *is* slurred, i. e., has